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RR RUEHLA RUEHNP
DE RUEHMD #1568 2261542
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
R 141542Z AUG 07
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 3198
INFO RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN 0620
RUEHLO/AMEMBASSY LONDON 0980
RUEHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS 1434
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME 2282
RUEHLA/AMCONSUL BARCELONA 2982
RUEHNP/AMCONSUL NAPLES 0006

UNCLAS MADRID 001568

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STATE FOR EUR/WE
STATE FOR H AND RM/F/DFS/FO/AA/CAA

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [AMGT](#) [ASEC](#) [OREP](#) [SP](#) [AFIN](#)

SUBJECT: SPAIN COUNTRY CLEARANCE FOR STAFFDEL HICKS

REF: STATE 110502

¶1. Embassy warmly welcomes and grants country clearance to Mr. Thomas Hicks, Majority Senior Election Counsel, House Administration Committee (HADC), and accompanying staff delegation per reftel to travel to Rota, Moron and Jerez de la Frontera, Spain on or about August 19 to August 22. The purpose of the visit is to conduct meetings with officials at the Naval Station in Rota and Moron Air base.

¶2. Rob Allison, Political Officer will be the Embassy point of contact for this visit. He can be reached at embassy number 34/91-587-2393 or cell phone number 609-771-513. His email address is AllisonRS@state.gov.

¶3. Embassy understands that Staffdel is in direct contact with U.S. military personnel at the bases and that no Embassy assistance is required.

¶4. Visitors are reminded that bearers of diplomatic and official passports coming to Spain on official business need to obtain a Spanish visa prior to arrival to Spain.

¶5. Post can provide DoS email access via OpenNet (unclassified system) to State Department travelers who have active OpenNet accounts. Post can also support users who wish to access their email accounts using FOBs or OWA. Exchange 5.5 users (ask your system manager to provide Exchange server version) who have to use remote login to access their exchange email accounts will need to provide Post's IM section with the name of their DoS Domain and their Exchange Server name and/or IP address.

¶6. THREAT ASSESSMENT:

In general, Spain is safe. However, Madrid, Barcelona and other large cities in Spain -- including resort/convention areas such as Benidorm -- attract a large number of criminals and pickpockets and frequent incidents of crime of opportunity against the unwary do occur. Carry only essential items including a photocopy of your passport's photo page. Visitors can protect themselves against crime by being street-smart, alert and aware of their surroundings. In the event you are victimized by crime, or experience any security-related incident, please contact the Embassy's Regional Security Office at 91-587-2550 or after hours at 91-587-2355. Official visitors to the Embassy in Madrid or the Consulate General in Barcelona are encouraged to receive a security briefing from the RSO office at their earliest convenience. Additional information regarding safety and security in Spain is available on the U.S. Department of

State's website (www.embusa.es).

Travelers are encouraged to review the most recent Worldwide Caution issued by the Department of State. As the Department of State continues to develop information on any potential security threats to Americans overseas, it shares credible threat information through its Consular Information Program documents, available on the Internet at <http://travel.state.gov>. In addition to information on the Internet, U.S. travelers can hear recorded information by calling the Department of State in Washington, D.C. at 202-647-5225 from their touch-tone telephone, or receive information by automated telefax by dialing 202-647-3000 from their fax machine.

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